

REMARKS

Claims 38 and 39 have been previously cancelled. The claims remaining in the application are 1-37 and 40-111.

Applicants would like to thank the examiner for the personal interview granted to applicants' representative. Applicants representative pointed out during the interview that the present invention is directed to archiving data in human-readable form. See, for example, page 20, lines 21 – 31 of the instant application.

The prior examiner had previously rejected all the claims under 35 U.S.C. §103 using Lorie as a primary reference. The prior examiner indicated that Lorie disclosed everything accept for an indexing database and a storage unit. Smith and Moore were cited as including these elements. The prior examiner then opined that it would be obvious to combine the cited references to arrive at the claimed invention.

As noted during the interview by applicants' representative, however, Lorie fails to disclose or suggest the writing, storage or manipulation of data in a human-readable form as expressed in the claims at issue. Accordingly, the combination proposed by the prior examiner, even if proper, could not result in the claimed invention.

The examiner agreed during the interview that Lorie fails to disclose or suggest the writing, storing or manipulation of human-readable data as set forth in the claims. Accordingly, the examiner agreed that the present rejections of the claims are improper and should be withdrawn.

At the request of the examiner, a new abstract is being submitted with this amendment in order to delete reference numerals.

Also at the request of the examiner, applicants have amended claims 61, 109 and 110 to clarify that the claimed methods clearly fall within the statutory subject matter permitted under 35 U.S.C. §101. Applicants note that the amendment to the claims is not intended to limit the scope of the claimed subject matter in any way. Accordingly, applicants submit that the amended claims are of the same scope and breadth as the claims presented prior to this amendment.

In conclusion, none of the prior art cited by the Office Action discloses the limitations of the claims of the present invention, either individually or in combination. Therefore, it is believed that the claims are allowable.

If the Examiner is of the opinion that additional modifications to the claims are necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, he is invited to contact Applicant's attorney at the number listed below for a telephone interview and Examiner's amendment.

Respectfully submitted,


Marc A. Rossi, Reg. No. 31,923
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 29,134

Nelson A. Blish/tmp
Rochester, NY 14650
Telephone: 585-588-2720
Facsimile: 585-477-4646

If the Examiner is unable to reach the Applicant(s) Attorney at the telephone number provided, the Examiner is requested to communicate with Eastman Kodak Company Patent Operations at (585) 477-4656.